

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-04

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5388

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

S E C R E T USNATO 2291

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO

SUBJECT: BRIEFING ON SITUATION IN PORTUGAL

1. SYG LUNS ASKED ME TO MEET WITH HIM AND WITH ADMIRAL HILL-NORTON (CHAIRMAN, MILITARY COMMITTEE) SO THAT I COULD BE PROVIDED A REPORT ON THE SITUATION IN PORTUGAL. THE MEETING TOOK PLACE ON APRIL 26. THE BRIEFING WAS CONSISTENT WITH INFORMATION REPORTED FROM AMEMBASSY LISBON.

2. BASED ON REPORT HE HAD RECEIVED FROM GENERAL FOURNAIS (ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, INTELLIGENCE DIVISION, INTERNATIONAL MILITARY STAFF), HILL-NORTON SAID THAT DAWN PATROL IS PROCEEDING ON SCHEDULE. ALTERNATIVE COMMUNICATIONS HAVE BEEN ARRANGED IF THE PORTUGAL STATION IS OUT. THE PORTUGUESE SHIP IS NOT PARTICIPATING.

3. THE COUP, ACCORDING TO THIS REPORT, WAS ENTIRELY ENGINEERED BY THE ARMY, BUT THE AIR FORCE AND NAVY HAVE TAKEN THE VIEW THAT THEY ARE CONTINUING TO WORK FOR THE GOVERNMENT IN POWER, I.E., THEY ARE DOING WHAT THEY ARE TOLD BY THE ARMY FORCES WHICH TOOK OVER THE GOVERNMENT.

4. THE PRESIDENT, PRIME MINISTER CAETANO, THE DEFENSE
SECRET

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MINISTER, AND THE ARMY MINISTER HAVE BEEN SENT TO MADEIRA. THE REST OF THE MINISTERS, INCLUDING THE FOREIGN MINISTER, ARE IN THE ARMY BARRACKS. THE CHAIRMAN OF THE STAFF OF THE THREE SERVICES AND THE HEAD OF THE POLICE ARE STILL

AT THEIR POSTS TAKING ORDERS FROM ARMY OFFICIALS IN CHARGE.

5. THE SITUATION IS CALM AND ON APRIL 26 OR 27 THE JUNTA IS
EXPECTED TO ANNOUNCE THE PORTFOLIOS THEY HAVE DISTRIBUTED.

6. FOURNAIS HAD NOT TOLD AMBASSADOR NOGUEIRA ABOUT THIS BUT
WILL DO SO TODAY.

RUMSFELD

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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